

Rep. Quigley votes for passage of supplemental defense appropriations bill

Additional funds will refocus mission, provide needed resources to troops

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (D-IL) joined a large bi-partisan majority of the House of Representatives to pass H.R. 2346, the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2009. The supplemental provides funding to equip troops deployed overseas, provide for their families at home, and focus the mission they have been called upon to serve.

“Funding war is one of the toughest decisions a Member of Congress will ever make, and it is not a choice I take lightly,” said Quigley. “After a great deal of thought, I have chosen to support today’s emergency supplemental funding, which refocuses our mission on Afghanistan, and provides much needed compensation for the troops and their families who have faced involuntary stop-loss deployments. Our young men and women have performed their mission admirably, and I am committed to ensuring they receive the equipment, training, and direction they need to assist the governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan, and bring our presence in Iraq to an end in accordance with the President’s plans. However, our efforts must be part of a broad international coalition. The governments we assist must have the mandate to lead and the organized commitment to achieve control over their territories and borders. I will continue to fight for greater transparency, oversight and accountability in the conduct of our overseas operations and press for the safe return of our troops serving in harm’s way.”

The Act, which passed by a margin of 368 to 60, includes \$1.2 billion for health programs for military families, \$734 million to compensate service members and veterans effected by stop-loss orders, and \$536 million for additional diplomatic efforts to stabilize Afghanistan.

###